Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-28 **(Cancelled)**

29. **(New)** A trackball device comprising:

a sphere including magnetic material;

a support configured to rotatably support said sphere;

a rotation detector configured to detect rotation of said sphere and output a signal indicating rotation of said sphere;

a controller operably coupled to said rotation detector and being configured to generate a specific output signal responsive to the signal from said rotation detector indicating rotation of said sphere; and

an informer including an electromagnet;

wherein said sphere is disposed in a magnetic flux circuit generated by said electromagnet, and said informer is operable to change a friction force of said sphere with respect to said support by causing said electromagnet to generate a magnetic attractive force to influence said sphere based on said specific output signal from said controller.

30. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 29, wherein

said electromagnet has a core with first and second ends; and

wherein said support includes at least a first supporting member coupled to said first end of said core, a second supporting member coupled to said second end of said core, and a third supporting member independent of said core.

31. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 30, wherein

a surface material of said first supporting member, said second supporting member, and said third supporting member is the same as a surface material of said sphere.

32. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 30, further comprising

a first switch arranged to be depressed by said sphere via said third supporting member;

wherein said controller is operable to detect a state of said first switch.

33. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 30, wherein

said controller is operable to switch alternately a direction of the magnetic flux generated by the electromagnet.

34. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 29, wherein

said controller is operable to switch alternately a direction of the magnetic flux generated by the electromagnet.

35. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 29, further comprising

a permanent magnet configured to have a magnetic field that influences said sphere so as to force said support against said sphere.

36. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 35, wherein

said permanent magnet is located so that a direction of magnetic lines generated by said permanent magnet coincides with a direction of magnetic lines generated by said electromagnet.

37. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 35, wherein

said electromagnet has a core with first and second ends, said support includes at least a first supporting member coupled to said first end of said core, a second supporting member coupled to said second end of said core, and a third supporting member independent of said core.

38. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 37, wherein

a surface material of said first supporting member, said second supporting member, and said third supporting member is the same as a surface material of said sphere.

39. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 37, further comprising

a first switch arranged to be depressed by said sphere via said third supporting member;

wherein said controller is operable to detect a state of said first switch.

40. **(New)** The trackball device of claim 35, wherein

said controller is operable to switch alternately a direction of the magnetic flux generated by said electromagnet.

41. **(New)** An input device comprising

a trackball device, and

at least one switch disposed around said trackball device,

wherein said trackball device comprises:

a sphere including a magnetic material;

a support configured to rotatably support said sphere;

a rotation detector configured to detect rotation of said sphere and output a signal indicating rotation of said sphere;

a controller operably coupled to said rotation detector and being configured to generate a specific output signal responsive to the signal from said rotation detector indicating rotation of said sphere; and

an informer including an electromagnet;

wherein said sphere is disposed in a magnetic flux circuit generated by said electromagnet, and said informer is operable to change a friction force of said sphere with respect to said support by causing said electromagnet to generate a magnetic attractive force to influence said sphere based on said specific output signal from said controller.

42. **(New)** The input device of claim 41, wherein

said electromagnet has a core with first and second ends; and

wherein said support includes at least a first supporting member coupled to said first end of said core, a second supporting member coupled to said second end of said core, and a third supporting member independent of said core.

43. **(New)** The input device of claim 41, further comprising

a permanent magnet configured to have a magnetic field that influences said sphere so as to force said support against said sphere.

44. **(New)** A vehicle comprising

a vehicle body having a vehicle cabin therein,

a drive wheel supporting said vehicle body, and

a trackball device provided in said vehicle cabin,

wherein said trackball device comprises:

a sphere including magnetic material;

a support configured to rotatably support said sphere;

a rotation detector configured to detect rotation of said sphere and output a signal indicating rotation of said sphere;

a first controller operably coupled to said rotation detector and being configured to generate a specific output signal responsive to the signal from said rotation detector indicating rotation of said sphere; and

an informer including an electromagnet;

wherein said sphere is disposed in a magnetic flux circuit generated by said electromagnet, and said informer is operable to change a friction force of said sphere with respect to said support by causing said electromagnet to generate a magnetic attractive force to influence said sphere based on said specific output signal from said controller.

45. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 44, wherein

said electromagnet has a core with first and second ends; and

wherein said support includes at least a first supporting member coupled to said first end of said core, a second supporting member coupled to said second end of said core, and a third supporting member independent of said core.

46. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 44, further comprising:

a second controller configured to receive the output signal from said first controller; and

electronic equipment configured to be controlled by said second controller.

47. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 44, wherein

said electronic equipment includes a display for displaying at least one of a pointer and a cursor, and rotation of said sphere causes movement of at least one of said pointer and said cursor on said display.

48. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 44, wherein

said trackball device is disposed in a central position of a full width of said vehicle cabin.

49. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 44, further comprising

two seats in a front portion of said vehicle cabin, wherein said trackball device is disposed between said two seats.

50. **(New)** A vehicle of claim 44, further comprising

a permanent magnet configured to have a magnetic field that influences said sphere so as to force said support against said sphere.

51. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 50, further comprising:

a second controller for receiving the output signal from said first controller; and

electronic equipment controlled by said second controller.

52. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 50, wherein

said electronic equipment includes a display for displaying at least one of a pointer and a cursor, and rotation of said sphere causes movement of at least one of said pointer and said cursor on said display.

53. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 50, wherein

said trackball device is disposed in a central position of a full width of said vehicle cabin.

54. **(New)** The vehicle of claim 50, further comprising

two seats in a front portion of said vehicle cabin, wherein said trackball device is disposed between said two seats.

55. **(New)** A trackball device comprising:

a sphere consisting of one of martensite stainless steel and ferrite stainless steel;

a support configured to rotatably support said sphere;

a rotation detector configured to detect rotation of said sphere;

a controller configured to generate a specific output signal responsive to a signal from said rotation detector; and

an informer including an electromagnet, and being configured to generate auxiliary information responsive to rotating of said sphere, the auxiliary information being based on the output signal from said controller;

wherein said sphere is disposed in a magnetic flux circuit generated by said electromagnet, and said informer is operable to generate the auxiliary information by causing said electromagnet to generate a magnetic attractive force to influence said sphere.